WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Decline in industrial growth in Kerala

2017. SHRI ABDUL WAHAB PEEVEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the industrial growth of the state of Kerala has decreased during the last three years, if so, the year-wise details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL POLICY AND PROMOTION, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR): (a) The industrial growth, measured in terms of Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) emanating from industry, released by the Central Statistical Organisation, was 6.5% in 2004-05, 8.9% in 2005-06 and 8.2% in 2006-07.

(b) Industrial Development is the primary responsibility of the State Governments concerned and the industrial growth in a State depends on the market conditions, availability of raw materials and other inputs, the infrastructure support, the overall industrial climate and the policy support available.

The Central Government supplements their efforts by various policy measures, and has put in place various policies to promote broad based industrial growth, which includes, *inter-alia,* delicensing of the industrial capacity, liberalization of foreign trade regime to provide better access to inputs at competitive prices, rationalization and reduction in duty rates of customs and central excise, better infrastructure support, and liberal FDI regime, etc.

Impact of rupee appreciation on employment and exports

2018. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state what in the Government's assessment is the short and long-term impact on employment in the country and on export from the country, of the appreciation of the rupee against the US dollar during 2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): In certain sectors like textiles, leather, marine products and handicrafts, there is a net decline in exports which has led to job losses. While the exact details are not available, it was estimated that unless remedial measures are taken, the total job losses could be as high as 2 million.

Review of SEZ policy

2019. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is reviewing the policy of SEZ in the country by giving more incentives;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the present status of SEZs, State-wise;

(d) the purpose behind each SEZ;